

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A slip-on, elastic, fabric cover for hard hats and the like, said hard hat cover designed for use with conventional hard hats and the like, and comprising:

a main body, constructed of an elastic material that stretches to fit over and contracts to fit the contour of a hard hat structure;

main body retention means, said main body retention means attached to the ends of said main body, so as to form a generally enclosed structure; and

at least one stiffened segment.

2. The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said stiffened segment facilitates the imprinting of a visual media onto said main body, using imprinting techniques, without distortion of the image occurring when said main body is subsequently stretched over said hard hat.

3. The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said stiffened segment is designed to reduce the elasticity of that portion of said main body to a sufficient degree to reduce noticeable distortion of said visual media once said

main body is applied to said hard hat.

4 The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said main body is washable.

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5 The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, further comprising a reflective coating placed on said main body, thus permitting said present invention to be used by construction workers and the like, for safety purposes, as is required by applicable state and federal regulations.

6 The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, further comprising a patch attachment means, said patch attachment means affixed to said stiffened segment and designed to permit patches, conceivably containing company logos and the like, to be releasably secured to said main body.

7 The hard hat cover described in Claim 1, wherein said main body is comprised of a flame retardant material.

8 A fabric cover for hard hats and the like having a main body, said improvements comprising:

main body retention means, said main body retention means attached to the ends of said main body, so as to form a generally enclosed structure; and

at least one stiffened segment.

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9. The hard hat cover described in Claim 8, wherein said stiffened segment facilitates the imprinting of a visual media onto said main body, using imprinting techniques, without distortion of the image occurring when said main body is subsequently stretched over said hard hat.

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10. The hard hat cover described in Claim 8, wherein said stiffened segment is designed to reduce the elasticity of that portion of said main body to a sufficient degree to reduce noticeable distortion of said visual media once said main body is applied to said hard hat.

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11. The hard hat cover described in Claim 8, further comprising a patch attachment means, said patch attachment means affixed to said stiffened segment and designed to permit patches, conceivably containing company logos and the like, to be releasably secured to said main body.

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